



Atty. Dkt. No. 062834-0114

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Anthony F. MENNINGER, et al.

Title: SYSTEM, METHOD AND
COMPUTER PROGRAM
PRODUCT FOR UPDATING
STORE INFORMATION IN A
SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGEMENT
FRAMEWORK

Appl. No.: 09/816,507

Filing Date: 03/23/2001

Examiner: N. Vig

Art Unit: 3629

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JAN 16 2003
GROUP 3600

AMENDMENT TRANSMITTAL

Commissioner for Patents
Box NON-FEE AMENDMENT
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Transmitted herewith is an amendment in the above-identified application.

Small Entity status under 37 C.F.R. § 1.9 and § 1.27 has been established by a Small Entity statement previously submitted.

Small Entity statement is enclosed.

The fee required for additional claims is calculated below:

	Claims as Amended	Previously Paid For	Extra Claims Present	Rate	Additional Claims Fee
Total Claims:	6	—	20	= 0 x \$18.00 =	\$0.00
Independents:	3	—	3	= 0 x \$84.00 =	\$0.00
First presentation of any Multiple Dependent Claims:				+ \$280.00 =	\$0.00
				CLAIMS FEE TOTAL: =	\$0.00

Applicant hereby petitions for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) for the total number of months checked below:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Extension for response filed within the first month:	\$110.00	\$0.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	Extension for response filed within the second month:	\$410.00	\$0.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	Extension for response filed within the third month:	\$930.00	\$0.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	Extension for response filed within the fourth month:	\$1,450.00	\$0.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	Extension for response filed within the fifth month:	\$1,970.00	\$0.00
	EXTENSION FEE TOTAL:		\$0.00
	CLAIMS AND EXTENSION FEE TOTAL:		\$0.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	Small Entity Fees Apply (subtract ½ of above):		\$0.00
	TOTAL FEE:		\$0.00

- Please charge Deposit Account No. 19-0741 in the amount of \$0.00. A duplicate copy of this transmittal is enclosed.
- A check in the amount of \$0.00 is enclosed.
- The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Please direct all correspondence to the undersigned attorney or agent at the address indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

By



Date January 14, 2003

William T. Ellis
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 26,874

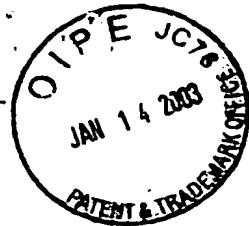
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Attorney Docket No. 062834-0114

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AMENDMENT AND REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Commissioner for Patents

Box: NON-FEE

Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This communication is responsive to the Office Action dated October 16, 2002, concerning the above-referenced patent application.

Please cancel claims 2-5, 8-11, and 14-17.

In accordance with 37 CFR § 1.121, please amend claims 1, 7 and 13 as shown by the following rewritten version of the same claims, as amended. The changes are shown explicitly in the attached "Version with Markings to Show Changes Made."

1. (Amended) A method for updating information in an independent supply chain management system that cannot mandate store-distributor relationships in the supply chain, comprising:

a) registering a plurality of stores of a supply chain to a database of the supply chain management system utilizing a network, the registration including

receiving first identification information including a store identification and a distributor associated with the store;

b) collecting data from a plurality of stores of the supply chain utilizing the network, the data relating to the sale of goods by the stores and including second identification information including a store identification and a distributor associated with the store, the second identification information being more recent than the first identification information;

c) allowing access to the data utilizing a network-based interface;

d) the independent supply chain management system comparing the store identification and the distributor in the first identification information with the store identification and the distributor in the second identification information; and

e) the independent supply chain management system updating the distributor in the registration of respective stores based on the comparison.

7. (Amended) A system for updating information in an independent supply chain management system that cannot mandate store-distributor relationships in the supply chain, comprising:

a) logic for registering a plurality of stores of a supply chain to a database of the supply chain management system utilizing a network, the registration including receiving first identification information including a store identification and a distributor associated with the store;

b) logic for collecting data from a plurality of stores of the supply chain utilizing the network, the data relating to the sale of goods by the stores and including second identification information including a store identification and a distributor associated with the store, the second identification information being more recent than the first identification information;

c) logic for allowing access to the data utilizing a network-based interface;

d) logic for the independent supply chain management system comparing the store identification and the distributor in the first identification information with the store identification and the distributor in the second identification information; and

e) logic for the independent supply chain management system updating the distributor in the registration of respective stores based on the comparison.

13. (Amended) A computer program product for updating information in an independent supply chain management system that cannot mandate store-distributor relationships in the supply chain, comprising:

- a) computer code for registering a plurality of stores of a supply chain to a database of the supply chain management system utilizing a network, the registration including receiving first identification information including a store identification and a distributor associated with the store;
- b) computer code for collecting data from a plurality of stores of the supply chain utilizing the network, the data relating to the sale of goods by the stores and including second identification information including a store identification and a distributor associated with the store, the second identification information being more recent than the first identification information;
- c) computer code for allowing access to the data utilizing a network-based interface;
- d) computer code for the independent supply chain management system comparing the store identification and the distributor in the first identification information with the store identification and the distributor in the second identification information; and
- e) computer code for the independent supply chain management system updating the distributor in the registration of respective stores based on the comparison.